Private LPG dealership in Gujarat

1385. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state: (a) whether any private LPG dealership is functioning in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have fixed any amount of maximum deposit and the maximum price for LPG being sold by them;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof;

(e) whether some of the private dealers are charging huge amounts as security deposit and are selling LPG at very high prices; and

(f) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) Under the Parallel Marketing System, private agencies are free to appoint distributors and register customers without any involvement of the Government. Such information about parallel marketeers is not maintained by the Government.

(b) to (d) Under the Parallel Marketing System, private agencies have been allowed to import LPG, using/setting up their own facilities and distribution network for sale of such imported LPG at market determined prices, under their own terms. The Government does not regulate price or deposits etc.

(e) and (f) Some such reports have come to the notice of the Government. The State and Union Territory Governments have been advised to ban collection of deposits by parallel marketeers without their making adequate arrangements for supply of the product. Besides, they have also been advised to verify the genuineness, antecedents and capabilities of persons/agencies intending to take up activities under the parallel marketing system and to take appropriate action against persons who have been found indulging in fraudulent and unfair trade practices. Public have also been suitably advised and warned through press releases that they must find out the antecedents, genuineness and capabilities of concerned parallel marketeers before entering into any transaction with them. MRTP Commission also takes action against persons/firms/companies indulging in unfair trade practices.

Setting up of outlets for lead-free petrol

1386. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether lead concentrations in ambient air in Delhi had shown threefold rise between 1989-93; if so, whether Government have been considering to set up outlets for lead-free petrol in Delhi and other Metropolises;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction in the matter; and

(c) what is the lead content in the petrol presently used by vehicles in India and how far the exhaust thereof by vehicles is injurious to the health of road-users?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.